

Demirel considers coalition partners

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's likely next prime minister, Suleyman Demirel, lacking a parliamentary majority, pondered possible coalition partners Tuesday. Delaying immediate talks with other parties, Mr. Demirel spent the day at home in Ankara plotting strategy with close aides in his True Path Party (DYP), a party official said. Mr. Demirel, 67, said Monday he would not rush into a coalition but would discuss options with all-party leaders. Unofficial results gave the DYP 180 seats in the 450-member parliament with 27.2 per cent of the vote in Sunday's general election. The Motherland Party, in power for eight years, came second with 113 seats from 24 per cent of the popular vote. "A coalition is inevitable. We do not reject anything," said Mr. Demirel, six times prime minister since 1965 and twice ousted by army coups in 1971 and 1980. Newspapers said he could ally either with outgoing Prime Minister Mevlut Yilmaz's Motherland Party or the Social Democrat Populist Party (SDP) led by Erdal Inonu which won 88 seats. Neither party has ruled out joining a Demirel government. Mr. Yilmaz said Monday he did not favour a coalition partnership with Mr. Demirel, but his party would "do what is expected of us to avoid a political crisis in Turkey."

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Arafat: Delegates are PLO

PARIS (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat conferred with Soviet and French officials Tuesday about next week's Middle East peace conference and said he considers all Palestinians to be PLO members, including the delegates to the talks.

Israel has said it would quit the conference if the Palestinian delegates have PLO connections or declare that the PLO appointed them.

Arriving from a fast-paced swing through the Middle East, Mr. Arafat met for 90 minutes with Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin to discuss the peace talks scheduled to open Oct. 30 in Madrid under joint U.S.-Soviet sponsorship.

The two refused to answer questions afterwards, but said in a joint statement: "The chances provided by the Madrid peace conference should not be missed."

"A just solution of the Palestinian problem is at the heart of the Arab-Israeli settlement," they said.

Mr. Pankin was among officials from 19 countries in Paris to sign a Cambodian peace agreement on Wednesday.

Mr. Arafat, after an earlier meeting with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, commented on Israel's demand that the Palestinian delegation in Madrid have no links to the PLO.

"All Palestinians are members of the PLO, whether they are inside or outside the occupied territories," he said.

"No one can hide the sun with his fingers," he added.

Mr. Dumas, according to a spokesman, told Mr. Arafat that the peace conference "offered a very great opportunity to the Palestinian people."

Mr. Arafat also met with Lebanese President Elias Hrawi, making his first state visit to France.

Earlier Tuesday, President Francois Mitterrand said he would not meet Mr. Arafat during the PLO leader's visit here in order to avoid any possible disruption of the peace conference.

Mr. Mitterrand, in a radio interview, said he would avoid a meeting with Mr. Arafat prior to the conference in Madrid because such encounters "could create a doubt, a suspicion."

"Nothing should be done that could disrupt the process which has been undertaken," Mr. Mitterrand said.

Mr. Mitterrand has met with Mr. Arafat on previous occasions and said he would do so again in the future.

Mr. Arafat flew to Paris after a swing through the Middle East to try to coordinate Arab approaches to the talks. While in Cairo on Monday, he said any Palestinian delegation would in effect represent the PLO.

"Each and every person among the Palestinian people represents the PLO," Mr. Arafat said after meeting with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

He said the Palestinians attending the talks would coordinate closely with PLO officials.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Tuesday ruled out contact with PLO advisers at the peace conference, but gave no sign that their presence would scuttle the meeting.

"We will not speak with these advisers. Secondly, they will not be present in the room during the deliberations of the conference," Mr. Shamir told a news conference at the European Parliament.

"We will not speak with them and they will not ask us any questions," Mr. Shamir said. "If the representatives at the conference say that they speak on behalf of the PLO we will not speak with them."

He did not say whether Israel would back out.

The man named to head the Palestinian team, Gaza doctor Haidar Abdul Shafiq, said Monday the negotiators would if necessary publicly declare their loyalty to the Tunis-based PLO.

Asked if he and other delegates were representing the PLO, Mr. Abdul Shafiq, 72, told Israel's army radio: "In the sense that all

Husseini announces Palestinian delegation and advisory panel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Faisal Husseini Tuesday announced a 14-member Palestinian delegation for the upcoming Middle East peace talks after a day of heated debate over last-minute changes.

Outmaneuvered by Israel into naming no delegates from Arab East Jerusalem or outside the occupied territories, the Palestinians also named a seven-person advisory committee to include such Palestinians.

Israeli newspapers reported Tuesday that Israeli officials have criticised the advisory committee as a way to sneak in delegates with whom Israel refuses to deal — including representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Husseini, who has been barred from the formal delegation because he is from Arab East Jerusalem, will head the advisory committee.

Dr. Haider Abdul Shafiq, a 72-year-old physician, has already been announced to head the official delegation. Dr. Abdul Shafiq was expelled from Gaza in 1967 when it was seized along with the West Bank in the 1967 war, but he was later allowed to return.

While most of the delegates will be unknown to the outside world, they represent the leadership that has grown up in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the past 24 years of Israeli occupation.

Among those considered as delegates and advisers, at least nine men have been jailed by Israel for activities against the Jewish state. Some have been put under house arrest, expelled from their homes or refused

permission to travel abroad.

The delegates include doctors, lawyers, professors, a mayor and a former mayor deposed by Israel, and even one man who is the son of a Jewish mother and a Palestinian father.

The announcement came at a news conference delayed for four hours by disagreements over how many negotiators would come from the West Bank and Gaza, and the number of representatives for factions other than the PLO's mainstream Fatah.

Following is the Palestinian negotiating team as announced by Mr. Husseini:

— Dr. Haider Abdul Shafiq, 72, Head of the Palestinian negotiating team. Medical doctor and a PLO founder from the occupied Gaza Strip. Headed Palestinian parliament there during Egyptian rule.

— Zakaria Al Agha, 49, the Gaza Strip. Medical doctor. Member of Palestinian delegation that negotiated with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. Supporter of Fatah. Head of Gaza Medical Association.

— Elias Freij, 71, the West Bank. Mayor of Bethlehem since 1972. On first team to meet Mr. Baker. Politically described as a moderate among Palestinians.

— Ghassan Al Khatib, 36, West Bank. Lecturer at West Bank's Bir Zeit University and owner of a Palestinian Al Quds daily. Backs the PLO. Holds a U.S. passport.

— Samir Abdallah, the West Bank. Economic lecturer at Bir Zeit, close to the Communist Party.

— Sami Kanaan, 32, the West Bank. Businessman known as a strong supporter of Fatah who has

met Israeli leaders. Was released in a prisoner exchange in 1985 and lives in Nablus. His mother is Jewish.

— Abdul Rahman Hamad, 45, the Gaza Strip. Dean of engineering school at Bir Zeit University. Graduate of University of Wisconsin. Considered a Fatah supporter.

— Nabil Oassis, 44, the West Bank. Physics lecturer at Al Najah University. Involved in dialogue with Israeli during tenure as vice president of university's academic affairs.

— Freh Abu Medien, 47, the Gaza Strip. Head of the Gaza Bar Association known to support Fatah.

— Sami Klani, 42, the West Bank. Physicist at Al Najah University. Known as supporter of the Yasser Arafat faction of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Placed under town arrest and "administrative detention" several times.

— Mustafa Natsheh, 52, the West Bank. Engineer by profession and prominent PLO figure in town of Hebron. Has taken part in Israeli-Palestinian meetings and supported Israel's Peace Now movement.

— Dr. Nabil Jasbari, 43, Jerusalem. Dentist by profession and head of Hebrew University's board of trustees. PLO supporter. Imprisoned for six months during Palestinian revolt. Married to a Briton and lives in Jerusalem.

— Mamoud Aker, 47, the West Bank. Surgeon and independent activist in town of Ramallah. Very close to Mr. Husseini and Hasan Astrash who negotiated with Mr. Baker. Interrogated and arrested for 40 days this year on suspicion of aiding an underground group and writing leaflets.

Following are the seven Palestinians named to serve as the "guidance committee." All are supporters of Fatah except

Egypt offers to help mend PLO-Gulf relations

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egypt, encouraged by the course the Palestinian delegation announced in occupied Jerusalem by Palestinian leader Faisal Husseini on Tuesday is scheduled to arrive here Friday. The names of the Jordanian side to the delegation have not been announced.

Dr. Abu Jaber indicated Monday that the Jordanian delegation would be announced by the end of the week.

Jordanian officials said the joint team, consisting of 14 members on each side for the talks, would be led by Foreign Minister Abu Jaber for the opening session.

PLO and Jordanian officials have said only seven of the 14 on each side would sit at the table at any one time.

The joint team leaves next Tuesday for Madrid.

An advance team of officials left for Spain Tuesday.

Arab coordination meeting to be held in Syria today

Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The team is overseeing research and negotiation strategies on water rights, borders, Israeli settlements and other crucial issues, a Palestinian source said.

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3 Israeli soldiers injured in Lebanese ambushes

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (Agencies) — Three Israeli soldiers were wounded Tuesday in two separate bomb attacks in South Lebanon, security sources said.

Both attacks took place inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" where three Israeli soldiers were killed in a bombing on Sunday.

The Islamic Resistance, a coalition of groups led by Hezbollah (Party of God), claimed responsibility for Tuesday's attacks in the village of Qantara near the Israeli-Lebanese border.

It said 15 Israeli soldiers were killed in the blasts.

"As the Israelis sent another patrol to the area of the first blast a unit of the Islamic Resistance set off a bomb in the assembly of Israeli," said a statement by the Islamic Resistance.

Hezbollah, in a communiqué released in Beirut, claimed five Israeli soldiers were killed and another was wounded in the first attack that targeted an armoured personnel carrier.

Prince Hassan returns

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hassan Tuesday received at Amman Airport their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath who returned home from Rabat after a several-day visit to Morocco.

During the visit, Prince Hassan met with King Hassan II of Morocco and discussed with him bilateral relations and ways of promoting and bolstering them.

King Hassan decorated the Crown Prince with the Moroccan Royal Academy Medal in appreciation of his contribution to the activities of the academy and his status among intellectuals.

Prince Hassan took part in the academy's meetings, which were attended by the Moroccan

monarch in addition to intellectuals from Arab, Islamic and foreign countries.

He delivered a speech to the academy on "Does the Right of Intervention Bestow New Legitimacy Upon Imperialism?"

Prince Hassan also visited the U.K. where he underwent a minor surgical operation.

Receiving Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath at the airport were also members of the royal family, Prime Minister Taher Al Masri, Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid, Ben Shakir, the King's political advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, and other dignitaries.

Shamir asserts 242 is only a 'guideline'

STRASBOURG (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir Tuesday foresees possible progress towards a Middle East peace settlement, but said Arab states must first move towards democracy and stop threatening Israel's existence.

Mr. Shamir told the European Parliament that Israel did not oppose the raising of any territorial issues by Arab negotiators at the Middle East peace conference opening in Madrid on Oct. 30.

But he said if "hostile" hands gain control of the Israeli-occupied West Bank "the area would turn into even the smallest beginning of democracy in the Arab countries becomes conceivable," Shamir said.

Second, Arab governments should exert unequivocal readiness to deal with Israel directly, on an equal footing, in peace negotiations.

Third, it would be encouraging if even the issue of borders entirely to the agreement of the parties in accordance with the principles it sets out," he said.

Fourth, Arab states should grant the few Jews who remained in their territories basic human rights, he said.

I am referring specifically to the Jews of Syria, who are in effect prisoners of the Syrian government, (and to) the right to emigrate and join their brethren in other parts of the world."

Earlier, Mr. Shamir raised the prospect of dual nationality passports for Palestinians during a visit to the European Parliament, an Israeli diplomat said.

The prime minister said the European community could help the peace process by launching regional cooperative ventures as well as strengthening Israel's ties with the EC.

Mr. Shamir said U.N. Resolution 242 required Israel, once a just and lasting peace was achieved, to withdraw its armed forces from some but not all the territories it occupied in 1967.

"Resolution 242 must be seen as guidelines to the negotiations. It leaves the issue of borders entirely to the agreement of the parties in accordance with the principles it sets out," he said.

Mr. Shamir said there were no short cuts to a peace settlement and there was a need for patience and consistent effort. All sides should also refrain from feeding unwarranted expectations.

(Continued on page 2)

Freed U.S. hostage arrives in Germany

WIESBADEN, Germany (R) — American hostage Jesse Turner, freed after a 1,731-day kidnapping in Lebanon, arrived in Germany Tuesday to be reunited with his wife and meet the four-year-old daughter he has never seen.

Mr. Turner, 44, flew to the U.S. Rhine-Main air base near Frankfurt and transferred by helicopter to a military hospital adjoining Lindsay air station in nearby Wiesbaden.

Fundamentalist kidnappers released Mr. Turner Monday night and handed him over to the U.S. ambassador in Damascus. He taught mathematics and computer science at Beirut University College until he was abducted on Jan. 24, 1987.

Looking cheerful and relaxed as he stepped off his helicopter in Wiesbaden, he smiled and waved to a small crowd of well-wishers.

Mr. Turner spoke to reporters only briefly in Damascus, saying: "I am very happy to be freed and I am looking forward to see my family and friends."

The kidnappers, Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, had previously released two of the academics but one, American Alan Stora, is still being held.

The kidnappers are swapping the Western hostages for Arab prisoners, held by Israel. Israel is releasing the prisoners in exchange for missing Israeli servicemen or their remains.

Officials at Wiesbaden said his Lebanese wife Badr, his only daughter, Joanne, and his mother Estelle Ronenberg were expected to arrive in Germany Wednesday morning. Joanne was born several months after his abduction.

Badr Turner spoke briefly to her husband by telephone while he was in Damascus. "I told him that I am going to meet him in a few hours," she told NBC Television.

"We say to each other that we love each other."

Mr. Turner and three university colleagues were seized by gunmen posing as policemen giving a lesson on how to avoid abduction.

The kidnappers, Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine, had previously released two of the academics but one, American Alan Stora, is still being held.

The report assessing health and economic conditions in Iraq was the result of work in August and September by an 87-member team that included experts in public health, agriculture, engineering, psychology and medicine.

The study was done without Iraqi government help or supervision, the report said.

In addition, more than 900,000 Iraqi children under five years of age are malnourished, and the rate of low birth weight has doubled or tripled since the end of the Gulf war because of food and medicine shortages and widespread contamination of drinking water and poor sanitation, according to a draft private report.

In addition, more than

Iraqi leader honours Gulf war heroes, sees better future

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein told a nation suffering from sanctions and shortages Monday that they had faced the worst in the Mother of Battles against the U.S.-led allies and relief was at hand.

He said even "those of little faith" would be surprised by his nation's recovery.

President Saddam Hussein, decorating his Gulf war commanders with some of the highest honours of state, said that things would change, "and this change will be comprehensive and deep and will have a long term effect."

"The difficult circumstances faced by our people will be followed by a great recovery, God willing, and it will surprise the people by its greatness ... even those who had little faith," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted him as saying.

The Iraqi leader appeared to be addressing the sufferings of 18 million people who have endured two Gulf wars in 10 years and are now under the clamp of trade sanctions and war damage affecting their daily lives.

The government says some 60,000 children have died because of a drug shortage caused by the freezing of its overseas assets because of its invasion of Kuwait and that food production has been hit by Gulf war bombing and U.N. sanctions.

President Saddam paid tribute to the country, for its resolve in facing "the hardest circumstances, because I do not believe that the nation has faced or will face difficulties as great as those faced in the Mother of Battles," he said.

The Iraqi leader made no mention of sanctions in a 20-minute address to a gathering of the leadership, all in military garb.

His tone contrasted sharply with a defiant address eight days ago when he said Iraq could endure sanctions for 20 years "without asking anything from anyone."

He has promised change for the better since the U.S.-led coalition ended Iraq's occupation of Kuwait in February. Among the government's pledges are a freeing of the economy and li-

mited democratic reform. He made no specific pledges in his speech, which was shown on television, but spoke of "life-saving change" under the ruling Baath Party and its commitment to unity, freedom and socialism.

"I do not mean by life-saving the accumulation of money, but a spiritual, historical and moral gain," said President Saddam, shown in reflective mood in green combat fatigues surrounded by the regional command of the Baath Party.

"It (change) will not be limited to a certain part of the people but will be for a whole generation of people in great Iraq," he said.

He decorated the regional leadership of the Baath Party, which includes Prime Minister Mohammad Hamza Al Zubaidi, Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Azziz, Interior Minister Ali Hassan Al Majeed and Defence Minister Hussein Kamel Hassan.

They were awarded a variety of decorations including the Mother of Battle swords, the Rafidain Medal and the Bravery Medal.

Iraqis find Tomahawk missile

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Iraqis have found an intact Tomahawk cruise missile, one of the key weapons used by the United States in the Gulf war, a Pentagon source said Monday.

In the opening weeks of the war against Iraq, 280 of the highly accurate missiles rained destruction on Baghdad and other key strategic targets.

A Pentagon official said the Iraqis appear to have obtained one of those weapons that was fired at a target but failed to detonate.

"They must have dug it up, or found it somewhere in the desert," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Although the long-range missile is crammed with high-tech guidance systems that send it on a certain path in order to hit a specific target, the official said the missile found by the Iraqis is no longer operable.

"It's kaput," he said. "They can't shoot it either."

The official brushed off concern that the find might be an intelligence coup for the Iraqis.

"We're really not worried about it," he said. He explained that it was expected in warfare that some remnants of battle would be found on the warfield.

However, the fact that such a missile remained intact does indicate that its non-nuclear warhead failed to detonate for some unknown reason, the official said.

He declined to describe how the United States knew of the Iraqi find, saying that information was too sensitive to discuss.

The Tomahawks were launched from ships and submarines during the effort to oust Iraq from Kuwait, the first time the weapons were used in combat.

After the war, Pentagon officials said a total of 280 Tomahawk missiles were used against Iraq. Although only conventional warheads were used during the war, the weapon can carry a nuclear warhead.

The Tomahawks cost \$1.3 million each and weigh from 1,175 kilos to 1,440 kilos depending on the booster used to launch the weapon.

After being launched from ships or submarines, the missile is propelled by a solid propellant rocket booster until a turboprop engine takes over, sending it as far as 1,100 kilometres to its target.

The weapon had a highly successful role in the air war because it can fly at low altitudes below a radar system's range, making detection difficult.

After the war, Pentagon officials acknowledged that some of the Tomahawks may have been shot down or knocked off course by Iraqi anti-aircraft guns or surface-to-air missiles, but they said at the time that they had no hard evidence of any shootdowns.

Those officials said a study of the Tomahawk's performance concluded that at least 80 per cent of the missiles fired at Iraq had hit their targets. That figure did not include the missiles that fell short or long but still managed to damage the target.

Iraq denies S. African deal

Iraq has rejected charges that it obtained arms and ammunition from South Africa, including state-of-the-art 155-millimetre howitzers capable of delivering nuclear, chemical or conventional warheads.

"He says U.N. Resolution 242 does not mean that Israel should withdraw from all occupied territories, but he accepts that means a withdrawal from certain occupied territories," Mr. Cheysson said.

He said Mr. Shamir did not say he accepted the principle of such a withdrawal, but added: "When he confirmed that the conference takes place on the basis of such resolutions, he also accepts the fact that resolution means the withdrawal from certain territories."

However, Mr. Shamir contested the idea that Israel should freeze

Bush to meet Gorbachev one day before peace talks

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush will meet Mikhail Gorbachev in Madrid the day before a Middle East peace conference opens there next week and leave immediately after the opening session, the White House said Monday.

The Bush-Gorbachev meeting on Tuesday Oct. 29 will be the third in 2½ years.

White House spokesman Mar-

in Fitzwater said Mr. Bush would leave Washington on the evening of Monday, Oct. 28, and meet the Soviet president in Madrid after an overnight flight.

The opening session is intended to be ceremonial, lasting two or three days, and filled by speeches by participants.

Four days later, bilateral negotiations are to begin between Israel and each of the Arab parties on peace, borders and numerous other issues.

Mr. Boucher said an operational U.S.-Soviet core group is already in Madrid working with Spanish authorities on arrangements for the conference.

"We expect many of the details will not be finalised until we're much closer to the conference in 10 days," and will be announced by the U.S.-Soviet core group, he said.

At their Moscow summit in July, the U.S. and Soviet presidents set the stage for the negotiations among Israel and its Arab neighbours by announcing they would co-sponsor the conference.

Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin were to preside over the conference following opening ceremonies. The countries involved were to be represented by their foreign ministers.

Palestinians have allegiance to the PLO, so they are."

Mr. Shamir said Monday he still had to ensure that the proposed Palestinian delegation met Israel's terms for attending the talks.

"This is an issue we must analyse, examine and we will see if this list meets the rules we have accepted," he said before flying to Strasbourg to address the European Parliament. "We will have to check the names and we will act accordingly."

Mr. Arafat said he had asked French leaders to help ensure that the peace conference would implement a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Parliament spokeswoman Sarah Yitzhak said the legislators did not violate any ethics rules by accepting the invitation.

Some of those who accepted had special requests.

Michael Bar-Zohar of the left-leaning Labour Party was not pleased by the choice of accommodations at New York's Regency Hotel.

"They just get back recess and want to go abroad again during the working period of parliament," said Amnon Dankner, one of the journalists who devised the sting. "We are not getting our money's worth from these guys."

Amnon Rubinstein of the left-leaning Shinui Party wrote: "I assume that the flights are in the business class." He later cancelled his participation, apparently after doing some checking.

Dedi Zucker of the Citizens' Right Movement confessed to embarrassment: "My conclusions is that we (legislators), especially we, have to look into the mirror and exposed the sting, he said.

Out of the 87 legislators in-

vited, 17 accepted, four said they had other commitments but asked about similar future conference, and five said "no," according to Mr. Dankner. The others did not respond.

Parliament spokeswoman Sarah Yitzhak said the legislators did not violate any ethics rules by accepting the invitation.

Three legislators asked to bring their wives, and a fourth wanted to bring a parliamentary aide.

Amnon Rubinstein of the left-

leaning Shinui Party wrote: "I advise Palestinians to resign or withdraw from the so-called peace conference," he said.

A PLO spokesman in Tunis has earlier accused Palestinian extremists of playing into Israel's hands with bellicose criticism of the conference and threats to disrupt it through violence.

Spokesman Ahimad Abdul Rahman was responding to reports that Mr. Jibril, in Tehran for a meeting of groups opposed to peace talks, had issued death threats against the Palestinian de-

Husseini announces delegation

(Continued from page 1)

Zahraa Kamal, who backs the Abu Rabbo faction of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine that favours peace talks. All are natives of Jerusalem.

Rashid Khalidi, 46, who served in the United States, he taught at the American University of Beirut during the Lebanon civil war. In the mid-1980s, he joined the political science faculty at Columbia University in New York City. He now teaches at Chicago State University in Illinois.

Khaled Massoud, 50, a Palestinian author living in Paris. He was a researcher at the Foundation of Palestinian Studies in Beirut.

Sami Nuseibeh, 42, is a professor of philosophy at Bir Zeit. He is an Anglican, the only Christian in the group. She holds a Ph. D. from the University of Virginia and is known for poetry, short stories and literary criticism. During the Gulf war, she was often called on for commentary by U.S. television networks. She lives in the West Bank town of Ramallah.

Zuhara Kamal, 46, was born in Jerusalem and remains a resident of the city. She founded and heads the Palestinian Federation of Women's Action Committee in the occupied

territories. Mr. Kamal was joined for six months without charge for anti-Israel activities in 1979. On other occasions, she was put under house arrest or banned from international travel.

Anis Al Ossan, 60, a Palestinian lawyer now living in London. He worked in Kuwait for more than a decade.

Arafat: Delegates are PLO

(Continued from page 1)

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Mr. Shamir said Monday he still had to ensure that the proposed Palestinian delegation met Israel's terms for attending the talks.

"They are playing the game of Mossad (the Israeli secret service), which is planning attacks on Palestinian leaders, which they would then blame on Palestinian forces which reject the present path of peace," he added.

In occupied Jerusalem, Abu Hila and Riyad Al Malki rejected Israeli radio reports that they threatened members of the Palestinian delegation to the conference in Madrid.

Mr. Malki and Abu Hila reiterated their rejection of the use of violence to resolve conflicts between the Palestinian people and the national forces. Also, both condemned attempts to stimulate internal conflict and reiterated that opposition to the conference must be on a democratic basis.

At a press conference earlier, Mr. Malki said: "We are going to pressure the people who are going to attend. We will turn their life into a nightmare." Mr. Malki is a supporter of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

"We are going to mobilise people; families of the martyrs, the detained ones... (to) demonstrate every day in front of their houses, phone calls, messages, visits and all forms of protest," Mr. Malki said.

Mr. Malki was joined at the news conference by Mr. Abu Hila, a backer of the Democratic Front of the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

"We think we are going to stick to the civilised kind of opposition... we are not going to stand at the door and stop them from leaving, or take their Jordanian passports," he said.

about to recognise the party you are negotiating with," said the Israeli official, who spoke on condition he not be identified.

The United States hopes the planned three-day ceremonial conference will launch historic one-on-one Israel peace talks with Syria, Lebanon and joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegations.

Diplomatic sources in Washington said this week that Syria, one of Israel's strongest foes, wants the direct bilateral talks to take place in Madrid to stress they are an outgrowth of the conference.

The Israeli official emphasised however that Israel remains opposed to broad international involvement in settling its conflict with the Arabs.

"Our expectation is to have negotiations face-to-face with nobody from the outside present and... after the first meeting to move the negotiations to the area," the official said.

"We have in mind one meeting of the bilateral groups. (Then) we would request to move the talks to the area — the respective other countries and Israel," he said.

Shamir asserts 242 a 'guideline'

(Continued from page 1)

Claude Cheysson, a former foreign minister, and Mr. Shamir had shown himself "ready to consider a number of issues which until now had never been mentioned," particularly concerning the basis of talks about a partial withdrawal from the occupied territories.

"He says U.N. Resolution 242 does not mean that Israel should withdraw from all occupied territories, but he accepts that means a withdrawal from certain occupied territories," Mr. Cheysson said.

He said Mr. Shamir did not say he accepted the principle of such a withdrawal, but added: "When he confirmed that the conference takes place on the basis of such resolutions, he also accepts the fact that resolution means the withdrawal from certain territories."

However, Mr. Shamir contested the idea that Israel should freeze

settlements in the Gaza Strip and West Bank soon after the peace conference opens as Palestinian leaders are urging.

"He says that is not the problem, because most of what you call the occupied territories Israel and will be Israel. Therefore it is not a question of foreign settlements, but wants to live in funding such measures."

A senior Israeli official said Tues-

day that Israel would insist that the peace conference be followed by bilateral talks in the Middle East, including Israel.

Raising a potential snag to the U.S.-brokered peace process, the official told foreign correspondents that Arab negotiators would show a sincere readiness to live in peace with the Jewish state by exchanging visits with their Israeli counterparts.

"If you are indeed about to engage

in a peace negotiation then you have to demonstrate you recognise or are

about to recognise the party you are negotiating with," said the Israeli official, who spoke on condition he not be identified.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 651111

Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 199

Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 691228

Blood Bank 752121



Opera and Concert Ltd officials discuss opening of Opera Don Pasqual today during press conference at Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental

Opera Don Pasqual to open today

By Serene Halasa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — For the first time in Jordan, the Opera and Concert Productions (Worldwide) Ltd. will present Don Pasqual at the Hotel Jordan Inter-Continental today.

The opera tells the story of an elderly bachelor who decides to recapture his youth by marrying a young bride who, unfortunately for him, has other plans.

On Thursday, the group will perform a number of Broadway hits including "I Dreamed a Dream," from Les Miserables "Nice Work If You Can Get It," from George Gershwin's "A Damsel in Distress," "Moonlight Serenade" by Glenn Miller, and Maria from Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story.

The Opera and Concert Productions Ltd. was established in 1987 by Barbara Segal, the group's soprano and concert's director. It was founded upon the desire of the company to stage opera performances in remote areas around the world and build bridges of friendships amongst people of different religions, cultures and traditions.

As an independent company, Opera and Concert Productions Ltd. has achieved worldwide recognition as it hosts a number of singers from different opera houses such as the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, the Metropolitan Opera of New York, La Scala, Milan and many others.

"I have a computer at home and I choose the singers who are available to tour with us and

sometimes singers approach me," Miss Segal said in a press conference held at the hotel.

As part of their travels, the company often donates a concert or establishes a scholarship for projects it feels are well deserving.

Since its establishment, the company has toured around the world and performed in Britain, Singapore, Japan, the United Arab Emirates, Pakistan, Bahrain, Switzerland and Kuwait. Most recently, the company has tried to again perform in Kuwait in a benefit concert to "Rebuild Kuwait," but was not granted visas because ... it was considered by the Kuwaiti authorities "a security risk," Miss Segal said.

Masri praises Chamber of Industry for efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Chamber of Industry President Khalid Abu Hassan Tuesday received a letter from Prime Minister Taber Masri praising the chamber's efforts to develop and promote the industrial sector.

Mr. Masri also noted the chamber's active contribution to advancing the industrial sector.

The prime minister voiced appreciation to the chamber's president and members for the efforts they put in issuing the English version of the Comprehensive Industrial Directory.

Officials preparing for joint Jordanian-French committee meeting

By Elias Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The joint Jordanian-French committee will convene in Amman Thursday to discuss a host of questions of common concern and scopes of cooperation in a number of fields, according to an announcement Monday.

The announcement was made by Dr. Safwan Touqan, Ministry of Planning secretary general, after a meeting in his office with Philippe Cardinal, the cultural attaché at the French Embassy in Amman.

Embassy sources told the Jordan Times that the committee, which was established in 1965,

aims at bolstering French-Jordanian cooperation in cultural, scientific and technical fields. Following the conclusion of the 1965 agreement, the committee held joint meetings in Amman and Paris alternately every three years to review progress of joint cooperation.

The Amman meeting will last until Oct. 27 and will be the ninth of its kind grouping teams of experts from the two sides, the sources said.

According to the French Embassy, the two sides will review general outlines for cooperation over the next three years in the following fields: agri-

Nine factories closed for poor performance

AMMAN (Petra) — Nine factories producing cement tiles were ordered closed Tuesday because of their failure to comply with standard Jordanian specifications and manufacturing poor quality products.

A statement said that Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Ali Abu Raghib decided on the closure of the nine factories, located in a number of regions in Jordan, when it was evident that their owners had violated the regulations concerning standards and specifications.

The statement said that the measures taken in a bid to emphasise the need for all Jordanian factories to abide by standards of quality of various products.

The statement said that the ministry was maintaining inspection on all factories to ensure that they abide by the regulations. Inspection teams will be making spot checks now and then at different factories to take samples of various products found in the market for testing. The statement called on all manufacturers to maintain the good quality of various national products to ensure their continued sale and to avoid having to face legal measures for violations.

Study finds condition of poor in Kingdom worsening

AMMAN (J.T.) — At least 20,000 families in Jordan live in abject poverty and could have been classified as "a starving group" had it not been for the help and trickle of aid reaching them from Jordanian charitable organisations, according to a study recently conducted by the Ministry of Social Development.

If not for the government-run National Aid Fund (NAF), the Zakat Fund, the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) and others, the 20,000 families could virtually starve, said Dr. Mohammad Sejour, the ministry's secretary general, at a seminar held at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation earlier this week.

The study confirms an earlier survey conducted by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) which found that no less than 33 per cent of Jordanians live under the

poverty line. The current survey goes a step further in pointing out that at least 20,000 families are not only very poor, but live in abject poverty and have no source of income whatsoever.

The study showed that those in the "abject poverty" category have an average 11.62 family members compared with the average poor Jordanian family, which has an average of 7.04 members, Dr. Sejour said. The study generally showed that an average Jordanian family spends 37 per cent of its income on food, 26 per cent on housing, 6.3 per cent on clothes, 11.5 per cent on education, 11.9 per cent on health and 7.2 per cent on communications.

The study also found that

the number of those living in abject poverty account for 1.5 per cent of the total population.

To bridge the gap and raise the standard of living for the very needy, the country has to spend nearly JD 2.5 million on feeding and caring for these citizens an amount totalling JD 30 million annually, according to Dr. Sejour. He added that only JD 7 million is being spent annually to meet this goal.

The Ministry of Social Development's study showed that poor families live on JD 70 a month while spending by the average family in the country is JD 135 a month.

The study defined the poverty line for families as those that only receive JD 50 a month and noted that each family of an average 7.2 members requires the JD 50 each month to get sufficient calories for its members.

The study attributed the causes of poverty in Jordan to the following: an upsurge of

the volume of unemployment, an increase in the number of large families, a rise in the population growth rate, decline in economic growth, an increase in the number of disability cases and low level of education and vocational training among poor families.

According to the study, 20 per cent of the total number of Jordanian families own or earn at least 45 per cent of the overall income in Jordan.

Commenting on the results of the study, GUVS Executive President Abdallah Al Khatab said that the present development system adopted in Jordan was bound to make the rich richer and the poor poorer.

He said the solution for the problem does not lie in the statements of various ministers or officials in this country but rather in a very effective system that would provide for all citizens.

Minister calls for DEF to increase help to poor

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz Tuesday chaired a meeting for the Development and Employment Fund's (DEF) Administrative Committee and discussed with its members means of activating it by enhancing the role of middle institutions through which loans for individual projects are provided.

The committee reviewed the conditions of social work institutions and the role of middle institutions in reaching groups in poor areas.

Dr. Fariz stressed the flexibility of the fund's policies, saying that it is equipped to deal with changes in the labour market and to provide the necessary assistance to help the government in its efforts to tackle the unemployment problem.

UNDP calls for war on poverty, involvement of women

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) issued a statement on the eve of United Nations Day Wednesday emphasising the need to recognise that the global war against poverty can never be won without the creative, positive and full involvement of women.

The statement, issued by UNDP Administrator William Draper, reaffirmed the United Nations drive to ensure dignity of the human person and equal rights of men and women in various parts of the world.

Following is the text of Mr. Draper's statement:

"We celebrate United Nations Day this year by reaffirming our commitment to the Preamble of the United Nations Charter, particularly in 'the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women, and of nations large and small.'

"In formulating our statement of purpose this year, UNDP drew from the Preamble because it puts people squarely in the centre of our work. UNDP is people serving people towards the goal

of human development. In country after country, from Benin to Russia, from Albania to Cape Verde, 1991 has witnessed the treasurable pull of the forces of democratisation, of people standing up and demanding that their voices be heard.

"However, people-centred development is hollow if it does not impact on the development of women and men, nor harness the creativity and energies of both. We are all acquainted with the statistics that put literacy rates among women lower than men; the limited access women have to opportunities for training, technology and credit; the burden of work attached to multiple roles at home, in the workplace and in the community. We are also well acquainted with the dynamism of women and their critical role in the issues that face the world today; food security, environmental protection and overpopulation.

"UNDP is committed to the inclusion of women in all our priority programmes on poverty alleviation and grassroots participation. "Together with our partners we must resolve to meet the challenge of how best to deliver programmes that truly bring about the advancement of women."

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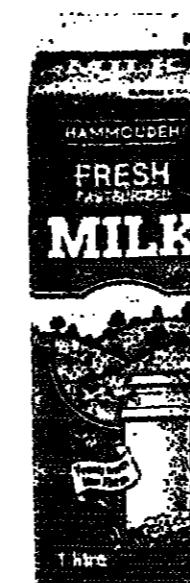
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WHAT'S GOING ON

- ★ Art exhibition by Abdali Rauf Shamoun, Khalid Khlais and Mohammad Hussein Abdallah at Abdal Hamid Shoman Foundation Gallery (Open 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition by Iraqi artists Ismael Khayyat, Mohammed Abdallah, Khater Mohammed, Ali Mandawsi, Khalid Wahl and Himat Ali at Baladina Art Gallery (located at the beginning of Gardens Street from Safeway).
- ★ Art exhibition by Fadwa Jalel Nabulsi at the British Council.
- ★ Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Sama Ata at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "Sheikh Ibrahim — Johann Ludwig Burckhardt (1784-1917)" at the reception hall of the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Jordanian artists Ghassan Abu Laban, Hadi Bassam, Abeer Abu Judeh and Samia Hindi at the Royal Cultural Centre.

CONDOLENCES

The Jordan Times family would like to extend their deepest condolences for the passing away of Mr. Ikhile Sati, father of staff reporter Nur Sati, who died late Monday night from a heart problem. May his soul rest in peace.

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One standard for all

THE FIVE permanent members of the Security Council last week supposedly started meetings in London to discuss U.S. President George Bush's proposal to develop means for controlling the flow of arms to the Middle East. According to news reports the London conferences are expected to arrive at certain guidelines to limit the flow of conventional arms deliveries to Middle Eastern states.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Politico-Military Affairs Richard Clarke had earlier told a congressional panel that the arms limitation process "will move parallel with the political (peace) process and can feed back and reinforce political progress," adding that arms control was an "unknown phenomenon" to states in the region. "They have sought security in secrecy, not transparency. They have sought peace through arms alone and not through limitations," Mr. Clarke was quoted as saying.

In his remarks, the American official failed to mention three things. One is that the United States has, since the creation of the state of Israel, pledged to ensure that the Jewish state should always have a military edge over all its Arab neighbours combined. Two, that the U.S. has always turned a blind eye towards, if not actively supported and encouraged, Israel's development of a nuclear arsenal capable not only of annihilating Arab urban life but of also striking at the Soviet Union. Third, the U.S., under the aegis and blessing of the U.N., continues to strip Iraq of all its weapons of mass-destruction including that Arab country's nuclear research programme, without asking Israel to lift a finger to reduce its own weapons arsenal.

While the U.S. does all of this and firmly opposes every Third World attempt at developing nuclear capabilities — in Pakistan, Iraq, India, North Korea and Algeria — it shies away from making any effort at even investigating the Israeli stockpile of mass-destruction armaments we could understand that the U.S., during the cold war era, considered Israel's nuclear capability as part of the West's deterrent nuclear force. But now with the end of that era and the rapid dismantling and control of East/West nuclear arsenals, the Israeli threat remains without any logical justification only this time it is obviously targeted against the Arabs.

As long as the Israeli nuclear threat persists, and that is likely to be a drawn-out affair, some Arabs will endeavour to acquire that capability themselves. Nuclear technology, sophisticated as it may be, is no more the monopoly of the few. Sooner or later, one or more Arab states will develop its own technology and stockpiles. No mechanism for arms limitation short of disarming Israel of its nuclear arsenal will do. If the Big Five are sincere in their quest for a safe and peaceful Middle East they need to do more than making arms delivery to the region transparent. Peoples in this region, like peoples everywhere, detest and fear nuclear weapons. If other nations, in Europe, Central Asia and America deserve a nuclear-free environment, the volatile Middle East urgently needs it.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I daily Tuesday launched a strong criticism of Iran for taking a negative and hostile stand vis-a-vis the Middle East peace conference and for breaking its promises to help Iraq during the Gulf war. Jordan is keen on bolstering Iranian-Arab relations and looks with hope towards genuine Islamic solidarity to safeguard Arab and Islamic interests, said the paper. But, it said, the conference going on in Tehran to decide the peace conference can by no means serve pan-Arab and Islamic interests. Had the Iranians been concerned over Arab and Islamic blood they could have offered the Palestinians more than lip-service throughout the occupation and they could have offered some help to their Iraqi brothers as they had promised before the raid, started, said the paper. Tehran knew during the war against Iraq that it held the trump card and its support for Iraq could have turned the tables on the enemy, said the paper. The paper warned the Palestinian elements opposing the peace parley against taking steps to prevent the Palestinian delegation from participating in the conference, saying that no help to the Palestinians was forthcoming from those who had been giving them empty promises. The paper said that those opposing the idea of the peace conference should be delighted to have the chance to prove to the world that they were right and others were wrong, should the conference fail to achieve results. The paper said that the Iranians did nothing so far to come to the help of the Iraqi and Palestinian women and children and the starving people of Iraq, thus going back on all their promises and breaking all their Islamic commitments to help their brothers in time of need.

A columnist in Al Ra'I daily said that there are indications that the Tehran conference was planning to offer practical help to the Palestinian people under occupation, and if the reports are correct, it will be the first time that the Iranian regime has done something meaningful to the Palestinian cause. Mahmoud Al Rikawi said that the Iranians should realise that mere words of solidarity with the Palestinians can by no means bring delight or satisfaction to their Arab brothers, especially the Palestinians facing the occupation forces. The writer said that the Iranians can and should take practical steps, at the diplomatic level, to call for the immediate implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions in Palestine so that justice can be established. The writer said the Tehran conference sources said that Iran plans to call on Islamic countries to set up a standing budget to give to the Palestinians to support their resistance and steadfastness and to give to the families of martyrs. When Iran's revolution broke out 12 years ago its leaders promised such assistance to the Palestinians but nothing materialised all these years. The writer said that should something constructive take place now, it would be a real and meaningful support in word and deed to the oppressed Palestinians.

Arabs, Israelis bring conflicting agendas

By Barry Schwidell

The Associated Press

MADRID — Arabs and Israelis will come to the Middle East peace conference in just 10 days with wildly conflicting goals that the Bush administration admits might be irreconcilable.

The Arabs hope to emerge with land, Israel with peace. But the Jewish state is loathe to relinquish territory that includes its Sinai security buffer, oilfield, two airfields and settlements.

"The road to peace... will not be simple," said U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, whose eight arduous Middle East trips this year set up the peace talks. "To the contrary, it will be extremely difficult, with many problems, many hitches and probably many interruptions along the way."

The gaps are obvious even in little ways. For instance, there is a furious fight going on between Israel and Syria over where to hold the negotiations after the ceremonial first round.

Israel prefers to Middle East and Syria wants to stay in Madrid, or at least Europe. It's part of Israel's strategy to deal directly with the powers and the Arabs to bring outside pressure to bear.

Even seating arrangements and the shape of the negotiating table haven't been worked out, though Mr. Baker managed to stuff out one fire before the invitations went out: there will be no flags displayed, which means the Palestinians won't be able to project a symbol of a state that Israel is determined to block.

Far more serious are the clashing objectives of the Arabs

and Israelis.

Going into the conference, Israel is vowing not to yield any more of the land it won in the 1967 war. The Arabs want a total withdrawal and the Palestinians want to build a state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with its capital in Jerusalem.

Even if Israel agrees to surrender land because of pressure from the United States, the conference begins without Arab assurances Israel would get peace treaties in exchange.

In a candid moment Friday night, a senior U.S. official said: "The Syrians believe the Israelis want peace for peace, and the Israelis believe the Syrians want territory for non-belligerency. And I'm not going to sit here and tell you before they get together and negotiate, that we've already

changed their positions."

The Palestinians, meanwhile, were driven to participate in the peace talks by the hope that the momentum of the negotiations might lead to a separate state.

While the Bush administration is on the record as opposing statehood, Mr. Baker carefully sidestepped the point by making no reference to the U.S. policy in a letter of assurances delivered Friday night to Faisal Hussein, a Palestinian leader.

Any one of those matters could be the explosive issue that might blow up the conference and set back peace prospects. Even such seemingly trivial matters as seating arrangements have that devastating potential.

Once before, in 1973, there was a Mideast peace conference. It, too, was loosely planned, and

it ended in failure in only a few hours when only the United States was willing to sit alongside Israel.

On the other hand, President Jimmy Carter invited Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin to Camp David in 1978 without a set script and with virtuous ad-lib diplomacy steered them to the peace treaty that was signed the next year on the White House lawn.

Mr. Bush isn't taking on that kind of an active role, though the telephone is within easy reach. He will make a speech in Madrid and fly home.

Mr. Baker will make a speech, as well, and stay in the Spanish capital for the two or three days the ceremony will take. If the talks break down — and Mr.

Baker isn't ruling out what he politely refers to as "interruptions" — he might step in and even resume his shuttle diplomacy.

Throughout the sessions, there will be American — and Soviet diplomats available. They will join the talks only at the request of both sides. American diplomats are being assigned individually to each of the delegations.

When the timing is right, Mr. Baker or a lower level official will make proposals designed to break deadlocks.

"There ought to be some ability to move some things forward positively in terms of the relationship between Israel and Jordan, and to deal with the situation in Lebanon," a senior U.S. official said.

The Middle East and the new Soviet Union

By Julia Slater

"I am resigning. Let this be my protest against the onset of dictatorship," the words of Edward Shevardnadze on Dec. 20, 1990. Eight months later, on Aug. 19, 1991, it seemed as if events had proved him right, when Mikhail Gorbachev was deposed. Mr. Shevardnadze had been the target of attack for his pro-Western policy. Mr. Gorbachev was deposed because he had led the country into economic ruin and political chaos. It was an issue of domestic politics, but those who removed him blamed him for selling out Soviet interests to the West.

This analysis was shared outside Soviet borders by those who think Mr. Gorbachev has led the USSR into a situation where it danced to any tune the U.S. chose to play. Libya and Iraq in particular welcomed his downfall and were unrepentant about it — Mr. Gorbachev picked out Muammar Qaddafi and Saddam Hussein, by name as the two world leaders who failed to congratulate him on his return to power. But for them his "new thinking" has put an end to confrontation between the superpowers and left erstwhile allies dangerously exposed in a unpopular world. At the same time, under his leadership the Soviet Union has found itself — or at last admitted itself to be — in such dire economic straits as to be obliged to go begging to the West.

It is no secret that Mr. Gorbachev had gradually lost the esteem of both reformers and conservatives at home. The eight men who set up the State Committee for the State of Emergency (SCSE) undoubtedly expected to find support at grass roots level among a population fed up with shortages, chaos and uncertainty. But they were grey men; two non-entities, one has-been, and the five others, though relatively familiar, quite uncharismatic.

The Soviet Union has changed, and the SCSE did not measure up to the change. The parliamentary system, inefficient and cumbersome as it may be, has provided a forum for voicing a real debate,

and the media coverage means that people know and care what the issues are. Deputies in parliament have coalesced into two more or less formal blocs. Conservatives have formed Soyuz, fighting a rear-guard action in the witch-hunt atmosphere after the coup. Radicals, though more divided, have come together in groups like Democratic Russia, a party of Boris Yeltsin supporters now in the ascendant. While the main issues revolve around the question of what kind of country the Soviet Union is to be, and foreign affairs are peripheral, it so happens that two Middle East issues have offered a touchstone for the internal debate between conservatives and radicals: the Gulf war and Jewish emigration.

The Gulf War

Opinion over the Gulf war divided more or less along opposite lines from the way it did in the West. Within days of the invasion of Kuwait, Mr. Shevardnadze and Mr. Baker produced a joint declaration condemning it. In spite of its last-minute peace initiative, the Soviet Union followed the U.S. line in the United Nations and voted consistently with it. Liberal commentators rejoiced at the end of the age of confrontation, and raised the issue of past Soviet dealings with murky dictators. A lot of "self flagellation" — as one called it — went on. "Soviet aid helped to build on different soil the same thing as in our country: anti-democratic, authoritarian systems," said one writer in *Izvestiya*, though another commented sarcastically, and presciently, that after seven decades of dictators Soviet commentators seized on "any opportunity to attack them" — in order to reprise our past and provide "protection" for the future." Some deputies from Democratic Russia even called for Soviet forces to join the coalition.

It is impossible to know how Soviet public opinion itself divided: the army paper *Krasnaya Zvezda* said its readers' letters were split 50-50. Both the Kuwaiti and Iraqi embassies claimed to have heard from large numbers of volunteers clamour-

ing to go and fight. The main motive reported among supporters of Iraq was to combat U.S. imperialism.

Support for a peaceful resolution was, of course, much stronger than a desire to fight on either side, though for a variety of reasons. Unlike in the West, the anti-war movement has always been a strong, establishment movement in the USSR, enjoying genuine support from a population which remembers, and is frequently reminded of, its appalling sufferings in the second World War; it is now reinforced by fear of getting involved in another Afghanistan.

Die-hard conservatives took a stronger line. On the one hand, they were profoundly unhappy to see the Soviet Union letting down its allies and thus forfeiting its international credibility, as they believed: that the war was a war for oil, and being fought in the interests of the U.S., the U.K. and Israel. In addition, as in the Arab World, many admired Saddam for standing up to the U.S., and admired him as a great and tough leader. There are many Soviet citizens, even knowing what they know now, who still say, "at least under Stalin there were sausages in the shops;" eyewitness coverage from Iraq in the run-up to the war remarked on how much better stocked the shops of Baghdad were than those of Moscow, sanctions or no. The end of the war removed the issue from the public eye, but at the beginning of August a Soyuz delegation went to Iraq and came back an enthusiastic as ever — and still鼓ing for Mr. Shevardnadze over his Gulf policy.

Emigration to Israel

Whatever their disquiet over the Gulf, for the radical Arab countries Mr. Gorbachev's fault is that he has allowed the massive exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel. The issue of Jewish emigration from the USSR and attitudes to Israel is related to the question of anti-Semitism. Freedom of emigration is the inevitable consequence of full acceptance of the Helsinki

agreement, which is an inherent part of Mr. Gorbachev's new thinking. Had Soviet Jews been free to go before, it is impossible to know how many would have left — certainly only a small proportion would have chosen Israel. As Soviet barriers to emigration by its citizens were removed, Western barriers appeared. Israel is alone in actually encouraging immigrants, who are all but barred from their preferred destinations.

But Mr. Gorbachev has not only lifted the obstacles; the Soviet Union that he has created has made emigration all the more desirable. In the first place, the bleak economic outlook encourages people to leave. In the second place, there has been a general crisis of faith. The beliefs on which three generations of Soviet citizens have been brought up, for which millions have suffered and died, have been swept away as worthless and nothing has been offered in their place.

The cement of Marxism and patriotism that used to bind society together is crumbling, and people are looking elsewhere, often to their own cultural and religious roots — Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist. And as people look to their roots and as they become disenchanted about their economic prospects, so ethnic tensions flare up. In different parts of the Soviet Union — Nagorno Karabakh, South Ossetia, the Fergana Valley, to name but three of the best known, people are being killed and driven from their homes. So far it seems that there have been no attacks on Jewish population, though there have been threats and rumours, and instances of the profanation of cemeteries, while anti-Semitic slogans are brandished at Russian nationalist rallies.

Mr. Gorbachev has not changed its policies towards the Arabs, but since the Gulf war benefits from relations with Israel is not the sole preserve of liberals; even the disgraced prime minister and ex-SCSE member Valentin Pavlov met Yitzhak Shamir in London in April and had "an amicable conversation" with him, though he was guarded about renewing diplomatic ties. Indignant readers still write to conservative papers and express their disgust at this compromise with a country which has not changed its policies towards the Arabs, but since the Gulf war benefits from relations with Israel is no longer even "have to be weighed against losses incurred by the anger of the richer Arab nations, with whom Moscow has also improved relations over the past few years.

Glassner has brought about another development in foreign relations too, with the encouragement of "popular diplomacy,"

Semites and anti-Zionists have long been confused in Russian thought. Anti-Semitic Russian nationalists like Panayot, who seem to believe in the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and see "Zionist plots" everywhere, declare their support for the Palestinian cause; liberals tend to have written off Arabs as a people who live in a time warp, and appear unable to grasp why the Arabs fear an unlimited exodus. Democratic Russia went so far as to call for a demonstration against Arabs who supported the coup, and threatened to demand the closure of the PLO mission in Moscow because of it. Pro-Western generalists appear to hold sway in the foreign ministry; Arabists complain that their voices are not heard.

Israel reaps the benefit

Mr. Shevardnadze's foreign policy, continued by Alexander Bessmertnykh and now by Boris Pankin, has been to take ideology out of foreign relations. Relations with Israel have improved greatly, with an exchange of consults, agreements for exchanging trade and expertise in a range of areas and numerous visits by Israeli ministers to Moscow. Influential voices — among them Mr. Shevardnadze's — are calling for the resumption of full diplomatic relations. But rapprochement with Israel is not the sole preserve of liberals; even the disgraced prime minister and ex-SCSE member Valentin Pavlov met Yitzhak Shamir in London in April and had "an amicable conversation" with him, though he was guarded about renewing diplomatic ties.

Indignant readers still write to conservative papers and express their disgust at this compromise with a country which has not changed its policies towards the Arabs, but since the Gulf war benefits from relations with Israel is no longer even "have to be weighed against losses incurred by the anger of the richer Arab nations, with whom Moscow has also improved relations over the past few years.

Glassner has brought about another development in foreign relations too, with the encouragement of "popular diplomacy,"

contacts at unofficial level, and greater freedom given to the republics to make their own foreign contacts. Israel has skillfully exploited the opportunity this has opened up, capitalising on the presence of Jewish communities in all the Soviet republics to open up business deals, give religious and cultural support to Jews and sow good will generally. It has given practical help to victims of the Armenian earthquake and the Chernobyl disaster. The policy is paying off, with the republics now independent, or hoping to become so, declaring that they want to have missions in Israel.

Mr. Gorbachev said on his return from detention in the Crimea that he had returned to a different country. Now it is even more different. Israel is already looking ahead and wondering whether to worry. Minister Yuval Ne'eman wrote a long article in *Daar* in June expressing the fears that the Soviet Union declines, leaving a unipolar world, the U.S. may prefer 21 Arab states and their oil to Israel and its problems. Among the plethora of welcome for greater independence for the Soviet republics, Yehuda Barak, chief of the Israeli armed forces' general staff, said on Israeli TV that secession by the Central Asian republics runs counter to Israeli interests, while the radio reported that Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan were now putting red tape in the way of Jews wishing to emigrate. It is a cliché to say that the future is unpredictable, but it is still better to look which way the wind is blowing than to hope the clock will turn back.

Julia Slater works for the BBC monitoring service, specialising in broadcasts from the Soviet Union. This article is reprinted from the Middle East International.

Strategic plateau — crux of Israel-Syria peace

By Neil Macfarquhar

The Associated Press

QUNAITRA, SYRIA — Coils of barbed wire curl past the back door of the runs cafe, the only business operating in this demolished town, whose destruction is preserved as Syria's monument to Israel's 24-year-occupation of the Golan Heights.

Once a prosperous market town with a population of about 50,000 Qunaitra lies in a demilitarized zone. Israel captured most of the Golan in 1967, almost lost it in 1973 and annexed it in 1981.

The Golan Heights, a 1,176-square-kilometre chunk of volcanic plateau, will be one of the most fiercely contested factors in the Middle East peace conference

Health and welfare in Iraq after the Gulf crisis

The following report was compiled by an international team of experts who surveyed the impact of the Gulf crisis on the Iraqi population. The International Study Team was organised by graduates from Harvard University Schools of Law and Public Health, as well as from the London School of Economics, the University of Oxford and the University of Nijmegen. Major funders included the MacArthur Foundation, the John Merck Foundation, UNICEF and OXFAM (U.K.), among others.

By International Study Team

FROM Aug. 23 to Sept. 5, the International Study Team on the Gulf Crisis comprehensively surveyed the impact of the Gulf crisis on the health and welfare of the Iraqi population.

The team consisted of eight researchers drawn from a wide variety of disciplines, including agriculture, electrical engineering, environmental sciences, medicine, economics, child psychology, sociology, and public health.

Team members visited Iraq's thirty largest cities in all eighteen governorates, including rural areas on every part of the country. The mission was accomplished without Iraqi government's interference or supervision. Principal funding was supplied by UNICEF, the MacArthur Foundation, the John Merck Fund, and Oxfam-U.K.

The study team has prepared separate in-depth reports on the Gulf crisis and its impact on Iraqi civilians focused on the following subjects:

- Child mortality and nutrition survey.
- Health facilities survey.
- Electrical facilities survey.
- Water and wastewater systems survey.
- Environmental and Agricultural survey
- Income and economic survey.
- Child psychology survey.
- Women survey.

This statement summarises the principal findings of the research. Individual project reports, representing the findings and views of individual authors, are available for more detailed information.

The economic and social disruption and destruction caused by the Gulf crisis has had a direct impact on the health conditions of the children in Iraq. Iraq desperately needs not only food and medicine, but also spare parts to repair basic infrastructure in electrical power generation, water purification, and sewage treatment. Unless Iraq quickly obtains food, medicine, and spare parts, millions of Iraqis will continue to experience malnutrition and disease. Children by the tens of thousands will remain in jeopardy. Thousands will die.

Child mortality and nutrition survey

Infant and child mortality and nutrition were assessed by conducting surveys in 9,034 households in every region of Iraq. The households were chosen on the basis of stratified random sampling techniques. The household survey was conducted by a team of 52 mostly female Arabic-speakers under the supervision of 10 public health specialists.

Within each household, mothers were questioned about the number of children born, the date of birth, whether the children were still alive, and, if deceased, the date of death. This is the standard method for obtaining accurate data on infant and child mortality.

Based on these interviews, it is

estimated that the mortality rate of children under five years of age is 380 per cent greater today than before the onset of the Gulf crisis.

The practice of public health specialists is to state infant and child mortality as a proportion of live births. Before the Gulf crisis, the mortality rate for children under five years of age was 27.8 deaths per thousand live births. Since the Gulf crisis, the under-five mortality rate has increased to 104.4 deaths per thousand live births.

Furthermore, it is estimated that the mortality rate of children under one year of age (the infant mortality rate) is 350 per cent greater than before the onset of the Gulf crisis.

During January to August 1990, before the Gulf crisis, the infant mortality rate was 22.7 deaths per thousand live births. Since the Gulf crisis, the infant mortality rate has increased 80.0 deaths per thousand live births.

The rise in infant and under-five mortality is likely to due to a complex interaction of factors. There are acute shortages of food and essential medicines throughout Iraq. Lack of clean drinking water and poor sanitation have greatly increased water-borne diseases, such as cholera, typhoid, dysentery, and gastroenteritis.

A random sample of 2,902 children registered during the course of the household survey was also measured for their height and weight. These figures were combined with the children's ages in order to estimate the incidence of malnutrition among infants and children in Iraq. Nutritional status was assessed by looking at three different criteria: height for age, weight for age, and weight for height. According to internationally accepted practice, children were classified as malnourished if they fell two or more standard deviations below the median reference values of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Nearly 29 per cent of the children assessed were malnourished under one or more of these criteria. According to the WHO there are a total of 3.3 million children under five years of age in Iraq. Applying the 29 per cent figure to this total number leads us to estimate that over 900,000 Iraqi children are malnourished.

The third criterion used to assess child malnutrition, weight for height, is a measure of severe food deprivation or deficient utilisation. In a layperson's terms, a child who falls two or more standard deviations below the median value for weight for height is moderately or severely malnourished, with a significantly increased risk of dying. About 3.6 per cent of Iraqi children assessed were malnourished under this criterion. Applying this 3.6 per cent figure to Iraq's total population of children under five leads us to estimate that 118,000 children are either moderately or severely malnourished and therefore at increased risk of dying.

The incidence of severe malnutrition appears greatest among children between one and two years of age. For example, 5.3 per cent of these children measure two standard deviations or more below the median value for weight for height and therefore, are considered moderately or severely malnourished and at extreme risk. Moreover, over one-third of children of this age are malnourished according to one or more of the three criteria.

Heart facility survey

The study team included five health professionals (three medical doctors and two public health specialists), who visited 29 hospitals and 17 community health centres located in nearly all governorates of Iraq. At each hospital, they conducted ward prevalence studies of admitted patients, interviewed facility directors, department heads, and physicians, and analysed medical and hospital records of malnutrition and disease. The ward-based analysis concentrated on patients under the age of five.

Mortality for patients under five years of age varied dramatically throughout the country. For example, at Babel Pediatric Hospital, it has increased 3.9 times for the first seven months of 1991, while at Diwaniyah, an increase of 1.2 fold was documented. The incidence of diseases was similarly uneven. With the improvement of Baghdad's water supply the risk of communicable diseases in Baghdad has substantially diminished in recent months, while in southern Iraq the morbidity pattern is substantially more acute and remains at epidemic or near-epidemic levels.

Drugs for chronic diseases are also unavailable. The rate of coronary attacks has increased substantially because patients with heart diseases are unable to obtain anti-angina medication. Teenage diabetics are dying because they cannot obtain insulin. Children with treatable leukemia are dying because anti-cancer drugs are largely non-existent. Laboratories, X-ray units, neonatal units, and operating theatres either do not function or provide only limited services.

Due to lack of water and detergent, sanitation was poor in nearly every hospital visited. The supply of water to most hospitals and health centres is sporadic. In a bacteriological survey conducted in southern Iraq, 30 per cent of

level of malnutrition. This is reflected in the large increase in low birth weight babies. As an example, in Kut, low birth weight babies represent 30-50 per cent of all live births compared to 12-14 per cent in 1990. The cost of infant formula on the open market has increased 2,000-3,000 per cent since Aug. 1990.

In addition, water-borne diseases, including typhoid, gastroenteritis, and cholera are epidemic. Hepatitis has increased throughout Iraq and by as much as one hundred-fold in some areas. Meningitis is now widespread in southern Iraq. With the damage to child vaccination programmes, such preventable diseases as measles and polio are also resurgent.

Strained health facilities operate at only a fraction of pre-crisis levels. Most lack even basic medical supplies such as vaccines, antibiotics, anesthetics and syringes.

Medicines are in extremely short supply. As a result, infectious diseases go untreated. There is little or no chloramphenicol for typhoid, fluids for rehydration of those suffering from cholera for gastroenteritis, or antibiotics for meningitis. Lack of vaccines and poor sanitary conditions have resulted in outbreaks of previously uncommon and preventable childhood disease, such as polio, measles, and tetanus.

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Due to lack of water and detergent, sanitation was poor in nearly every hospital visited. The supply of water to most hospitals and health centres is sporadic. In a bacteriological survey conducted in southern Iraq, 30 per cent of

hospital water sources were grossly polluted with coliform indicating fecal contamination. In Kurdish areas, tested water supplies of hospitals found heavy coliform pollution. Moreover, the water that is supplied is often contaminated with fecal matter. Lavatories are clogged. At several hospitals, raw sewage had backed up into the wards.

Electrical facility survey

The project surveyed the conditions of most major electrical facilities in Iraq. The sites were selected by team members to gain a comprehensive picture of conditions throughout the country. The study was comprised of site inspections and interviews at 24 facilities over a ten-day period.

During the Gulf crisis, enormous damage was inflicted upon the electrical generation infrastructure of Iraq. Since the ceasefire, electrical generation has been restored to about 68 per cent of the 1990 peak load (5,162 MW) but, to only 37 per cent of the installed capacity (35 MW).

The study estimates 75 per cent of electrical transmission lines are operable. All repairs have been done using salvaged parts and improvised methods.

Much of this repair, especially in the switchyards and first-span connections to transmission, does not meet normal standards of construction, poses increased safety risks, and is likely to break down. Without spare parts, replacement and further repair will not be possible. The store of salvageable parts is depleted. Iraq does not have the capability to manufacture the necessary items. Many are specific to the foreign companies from Europe, Japan, and North America that built or supplied all the power stations.

Finally, the study team documented the profoundly negative impact that the damaged and ill-repaired power generation system has had on, and will continue to have on, water purification and wastewater treatment and public health infrastructure generally.

Water and wastewater systems survey

Civil and chemical engineers, inspected water and wastewater treatment plants, distribution systems, and collection systems in all parts of Iraq. Twenty-eight facilities, including eighteen water treatment plants, eight wastewater treatment plants, one water supply and one aluminum sulfate plant were visited in thirteen cities.

electrical power. The study team estimates that if current trends continue, the entire water treatment and delivery system will deteriorate to the point of collapse. Within a matter of months, those critical public services are expected to be operating at only 5-10 per cent capacity.

Environment and agricultural survey

Environmental and chemical engineers investigated and interviewed public health officials, environmental regulators and local residents concerning the environmental and public health consequences of the Gulf crisis.

Team members collected drinking water samples at 158 randomly selected households in all 18 governorates in Iraq. The sampling framework of the public health survey team was used to collect drinking water samples.

Most of Iraq's population of 18 million is directly exposed to water-borne disease in their potable water supply. Each sample was tested for coliform or fecal contamination. The results were 106 positive for gross coliform contamination, 25 confirmed negative, and 27 unconfirmed negative.

Reduced water flows and insufficient levels of chlorine in the distribution system promote the incidence of water-borne diseases. The lack of electrical power has eliminated wastewater treatment in Baghdad and southern Iraq and raw sewage is being discharged into waterways. Sewage treatment is also dramatically reduced because of a lack of chlorine, spare parts and reliable

conditions in all cities surveyed. Common conditions observed included: (1) solid waste accumulating in the streets due to the lack of collection and landfilling equipment, (2) raw sewage overflows in the streets and around homes, (3) raw sewage being dumped directly into the rivers due to impaired or inoperable wastewater treatment plants, (4) children bathing and playing in these rivers (5) people with little to no tap water supply because impaired or inoperable water treatment and distribution plants cannot generate adequate pressure, (6) people drawing drinking water directly from the rivers, and (7) people drawing drinking water from holes dug in water mains, which are often contaminated by cross-connections from adjacent sewage pipes.

The team found that direct sewage contamination of water supplies results from two primary causes: inadequate chlorinating of discharges or bypassing treatment entirely; and contamination through breaks in the water mains.

Over 60 per cent of the population in five of the seven governorates surveyed no longer have tap water available in their homes because of low water supply system pressure. The low pressure is caused by lack of spare parts to maintain pumps, power outages, and breaks in the water mains.

Income and economic survey

Two economist members of the team studied the impact of the (Continued on page 7)

Under Royal Patronage

The opening of a new tourist project in Aqaba at a cost of

JD 1.2 million

Simon Khoury:

Aquamarina 3 is a new leap for Petra International Hotels Co.

By Ahmed Al Khamash

AQABA — Under the Royal Patronage, the Aquamarina 3 hotel in Aqaba will be officially opened on Wednesday (today) evening. The General Manager of the Aquamarina Hotels Mr. Simon Khoury said that it was no coincidence that the opening ceremony of Aquamarina 3 came at the beginning of the current tourism season in Aqaba. He added that the project came about after intensive studies and contacts with international tourism companies in France, Britain and other European countries. All of which had sent representatives who visited the hotel and expressed their admiration of its modern and luxurious facilities. Mr. Khoury said that these companies have confirmed their bookings for this and upcoming season.

The JD 1.2 million project in Aqaba will be followed by other pioneering projects to be undertaken by Petra International Hotels Co. The next project will be built in the historic city of Petra, Mr. Khoury said.

The Aquamarina 3, which is located on the Ring Road of Manara in the centre of Aqaba, is a six-storey hotel with 55 rooms accommodating 120 beds all of which are equipped with luxury furniture and facilities making it possible to offer excellent service to the hotel's clients. The hotel has a swimming pool and a restaurant located on the six floor overlooking the sea and the city. The restaurant can cater for 80 people at once. The hotel is also served by a round-the-clock shuttle bus to take clients to Aquamarina 1, which is 10 minutes away, where they can enjoy the sea, sun and sand in addition to sea trips and water sports like sea surfing and scuba diving. Attending the opening ceremony were representatives of number of local and international companies, tourist operators and international airlines including Royal Jordanian, in addition to local officials.

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2000

Financial Markets in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close
Date 21/10/91		Date 22/10/91
Sterling Pound*	1.7775	1.7750
Deutsche Mark	1.6920	1.6934
Swiss Franc	1.4823	1.4834
French Franc	5.7720	5.7825 **
Japanese Yen	130.75	131.45
European Currency Unit	1.2090	1.2087 **

* USD Per STG

** European Opening @ 8:00 a.m. GMT

Eurodollar Interest Rates Date: 21/10/1991

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.25	5.45	5.37	5.62
Sterling Pound	10.31	10.37	10.25	10.00
Deutsche Mark	9.06	9.31	9.37	9.37
Swiss Franc	8.00	8.25	8.18	8.06
French Franc	8.93	9.12	9.18	9.18
Japanese Yen	6.46	6.21	5.90	5.59
European Currency Unit	9.45	9.65	9.75	9.75

Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Provisional Metals Date: 22/10/1991

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	365.25	7.10	Silver	4.17	0.095

* 24 Karat

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Date: 22/10/1991

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.686	0.688
Sterling Pound	1.1759	1.1818
Deutsche Mark	0.4048	0.4068
Swiss Franc	0.4623	0.4646
French Franc	0.1186	0.1192
Japanese Yen*	0.923	0.926
Dutch Guilder	0.3592	0.361
Swedish Krona	0.1111	0.1117
Italian Lira*	0.0541	0.0544
Belgian Franc	0.01966	0.01976

* Per 100

CADS Indices for Amman Financial Market

Date: 22/10/1991

Index	20/10/1991 Close	21/10/1991 Close
All-Share	123.92	123.82
Banking Sector	104.42	104.77
Insurance Sector	125.82	125.03
Industry Sector	153.41	152.70
Services Sector	123.06	122.71

December 31, 1990 = 100

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.7110/20	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1268/73	Canadian dollar
1.6967/77		Dentschmarks
1.9090/9100		Dutch guilders
1.4855/65		Swiss francs
34.90/94		Belgian francs
5.7850/7900		French francs
1269/1270		Italian lire
131.30/40		Japanese yen
6.1775/25		Swedish crowns
6.6450/6500		Norwegian crowns
6.5570/5620		Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	362.75/363.25	U.S. dollars

RED HEAT

Shows: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Tel: 675571
Nabil Al Mashini Theatre
1. SOMERSAULT TIME PLAY
Shows daily 8:30 p.m.
2. Children play
★THE TREASURE AND THE SEA★
Shows: daily 10:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

Millions of Italians stage general strike

ROME (R) — Millions of Italians stopped work for four hours Tuesday in a general strike aimed at forcing Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti to scrap his 1992 cost-cutting plans.

Mass demonstrations took place in major cities and public transport ground to a halt in defiance of last-minute government appeals to call off the strike.

Some essential services were hit, although unions representing health workers and firefighters limited their protest to one hour.

Schools and banks were closed, many for the day, and dozens of local and international flights were postponed or cancelled. Milan's stock exchange opened one hour late.

"We aim to get these measures thrown out completely, not just watered down," said Giorgio Benvenuto, secretary general of the UIL, one of Italy's three major union groupings.

The three, accounting for some 14 million workers, are bitterly opposed to Mr. Andreotti's 1992 budget plan which they say is unjust and unrealistic.

The government aims to raise health care costs and cap public sector wage rises next year in a bid to contain a huge budget deficit and keep Italy's economy abreast of its European Community partners.

The unions last Saturday turned down an appeal by Mr. Andreotti to call off their action.

Tuesday's strike was the first all-out stoppage in Italy since May 1989 when a wave of protests, also against new health

experience in this field. For example, nearly two-thirds of children interviewed believe that they will not survive to become adults. Nearly 80 per cent are afraid of losing her/his family through death or separation.

More than a year of war and internal conflicts have had a disastrous impact on the economy. The destruction of the economic infrastructure and acute shortage of imported inputs have caused a considerable decline of output and wage employment (especially in the private sector). The reduction of formal employment opportunities, and the general impoverishment of the population, have led to a large-scale expansion of "informal" self-employment (e.g. street vending).

Overall, money earnings have remained more or less unchanged for the majority of the population since August 1990. Over the same period, consumer prices have sharply increased, due to trade restriction, exchange-rate depreciation and reductions in subsidies. The food price index has risen by 1,500 to 2,000 per cent.

Correspondingly, real earnings have fallen to less than 7 per cent of their pre-crisis level, in terms of purchasing power over food. In terms of private incomes, the incidence of poverty is now greater

Child psychology survey

On the basis of in-depth interviews of 214 Iraqi children of primary school age, two professional child psychologists report levels of anxiety, stress, and pathological behaviour unprecedented in their fifteen year

TOKYO — Stocks clawed back early losses to close only moderately weaker. Brokers said a softer bond market and profit-taking after Monday's rally took their toll on prices, but comments by the Bank of Japan governor and hopes for easier credit helped support sentiment. The Nikkei average ended down 6.15 points, or 0.25 per cent, at 24,954.66.

SYDNEY — Hopes of interest rate cuts in Australia and the United States drove the market higher. The All Ordinaries index closed 10.7 points higher at 1,643.7, its highest level since February 19 last year when it finished at 1,645.9.

HONG KONG — Concern over rising property prices and expected tough government action to cool the market forced Hong Kong stocks and capped turnover for a second straight day. The Hang Seng index ended 17.05 points down at 3,981.66.

SINGAPORE — A sudden buying spree in the afternoon sent prices soaring across the board. The Straits Times Industrial index jumped 26.95 points, or almost two per cent, to end at 1,414.79, its highest since September 13.

BOMBAY — Institutional buying helped push up prices. The Bombay Stock Exchange index rose 23.71 points, or 1.37 per cent, to finish at 1,764.24.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

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Show: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Pakistan freezes assets of cooperatives' directors

Australian livestock sales to Jordan rise dramatically

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

LAHORE, Pakistan (R) — Punjab has frozen the personal assets of 113 directors and sponsors of financial cooperatives involved in a multi-million dollar scandal.

The order affects directors of 47 financial cooperatives, many owned by members of the ruling Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA).

The property of those owing large sums to the cooperatives was frozen to ensure repayments, an official statement said.

Australian exports to Jordan are expected to reach 30 million Australian dollars (around \$24 million) this year, growing from 6.79 million dollars in 1989 and 23.89 million in 1990.

Australia imported Jordanian products — mostly phosphates and fertilisers — worth 3.7 million dollars in 1990, and is expected to register a higher volume in 1991 if ongoing discussions between Australian importers and the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company bear fruit, according to Ambassador Paul Bowker.

Australian exports to Jordan include certain inorganic chemicals and halogen salts for use in the phosphate processing industry. The Kingdom ranks as Australia's sixty-ninth largest export market and eighty-first largest import supplier.

Mr. Bowker, who estimates that Australia would export 600,000 to 800,000 heads of sheep to Jordan this year, believes that there is still room for increase since Jordan's total consumption of sheep of the type offered by his country is between one million and 1.2 million.

More importantly, he added, Australia, which has developed advanced methods and techniques in breeding livestock, enjoys a sharp competitive edge.

Australia stepped in to fill in the slot in sources for sheep for

Jordan when imports became unreliable with political turmoil plaguing the Kingdom's traditional exporters in eastern Europe in 1989 and 1990. And Mr. Bowker expects his country to retain its leading role for some time to come.

Eastern Europe had the edge in freight costs as well as an advantage in timing of delivery of meat to Jordan in line with the parameters laid down by the Kingdom's government. But, with the focus shifting to live animals rather than "chilled" meat, Australia is in a better position to meet Jordan's needs, the ambassador said.

However, he added, Australia is not planning to monopolise the Jordanian market. On the contrary, he said, the Australian government is offering assistance to upgrade Jordanian livestock industry and increase output through improved breeding and grazing methods.

With the abolition of import restrictions on import of meat and livestock by the Jordanian government

Yugoslav army tightens grip around Dubrovnik

ZAGREB, Yugoslavia (Agencies) — The Yugoslav army tightened its grip around the Adriatic resort of Dubrovnik and fought sporadic mortar duels with Croatian forces overnight, Croatian radio said Tuesday.

The radio said the night was generally calm but reported mortar attacks in the besieged town of Vukovar and Belice in northeast Croatia, and gunfire around Zadar on the western coast.

It said a Croatian National Guardsman was killed and three were seriously wounded in heavy fighting Monday evening as the army thrust north along the coast towards Dubrovnik, a historic medieval town known as the "pearl of the Adriatic."

Sporadic shooting continued around Dubrovnik overnight but there were no heavy battles, the radio said.

The fighting has eased because of heavy rain and cold but has continued despite a new European Community (EC) backed truce, intended to end almost four months of fighting over Croatia's independence moves.

At least 27 people have been killed in the last four days of a conflict in which more than 1,000 Croats and an unknown number of Serbs and federal soldiers have died since Croatia declared independence on June 25.

The federal army has been pushing towards Dubrovnik at the southern tip of Croatia and it has been virtually cut off from the outside world for three weeks. Four towns near Dubrovnik have been wrecked beyond recognition, radio Croatia said.

Quoting the Dubrovnik Medical Centre, the radio said 28 people had been killed and 264 wounded in the area since the start of military operations against the city early this month.

Fresh looting sweeps Zaire town

KINSHASA (R) — A fresh explosion of looting has swept Zaire's major copper-mining town of Lubumbashi, witnesses arriving in the capital Kinshasa said Tuesday.

The witnesses said looters ransacked the southeastern city Monday night as the Central African country was locked in a power struggle between President

It said more than 10,000 women, children, sick and elderly had fled from the city but about 60,000 remained.

The army kept up its artillery and tank shelling Monday across the rebel republic of 4.5 million people.

Heavy mortar duels were reported in Podravka Slatina and Mikleus in central Croatia and around Vukovar and Osijek in the east Monday. Mortar rounds were fired near a dozen other Croatian towns as well.

There were reports of fighting around villages near the motorway linking Belgrade to the Croatian capital of Zagreb, closed since August because of shooting across the road. Travel between the two cities is almost impossible.

The Serb-led federal army fiercely opposes Croatia's independence and has sided with the 600,000-strong Serbian minority in the breakaway rebel republic.

The EC, fearing the conflict could ignite Yugoslavia's explosive mix of ethnic groups and religions into a full civil war, has been trying to negotiate a halt in the fighting.

But the 10th EC-backed ceasefire since June passed largely unnoticed Saturday and EC efforts to bring peace to the Balkan country of 23.5 million people again looked unlikely to succeed.

Showing signs of frustration, the EC said it would pull out six of its helicopters, in Yugoslavia to help 200 EC observers oversee peace efforts, saying the fighting made it impossible for the aircraft to operate.

In a separate development, Yugoslavia's largest Republic of Serbia Monday banned a planned referendum on the autonomy of its southern, Muslim-inhabited

regions in Sanjak.

"The government will not permit Muslim religious feelings to be misused," said the statement, adding that legal "measures will be taken against those who break the laws and the constitution of Serbia."

Muslim leaders in Sanjak have already announced that the vote will take place regardless of possible repercussions.

Mobutu Sese Seko and opposition Prime Minister Etienne Tshisekedi.

"They looted everything, all night," said one resident contacted by telephone. "They've stripped the face of the town. They've even taken corrugated metal from the houses."

"Air links with Lubumbashi, in Zaire's copper-rich Shaba pro-

Russia accused of fuelling ethnic unrest

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The ballot, scheduled for Oct. 25-27, is being organised by the Party of Democratic Action, a largely Muslim party which has long advocated regional self-rule.

Muslims are considered a separate ethnic group in Yugoslavia and the ban raises the possibility of serious inter-ethnic tensions and clashes in southwestern Serbia.

Sanjak, autonomous in World War II, also stretches into Montenegro. Any trouble there also could provoke even more tension in the explosive state of Bosnia-Herzegovina, where the population is 44 per cent Muslim, 31 per cent Serb and about 17 per cent Croat.

Sanjak, which has thus far escaped the ethnic violence that has plagued other parts of Yugoslavia, has about 440,000 people two-thirds of whom are Muslim.

If Sanjak declares itself autonomous, it would cut the only link between landlocked Serbia and Montenegro, its small ally on the Adriatic coast.

The Serbian government has declared the proposed referendum to be "country to the state constitution, according to which the republic's territory is invisible."

It described the plebiscite, which is to take place in six districts in Serbia and three in Montenegro, as "illegal and irresponsible."

"In the course of recent weeks, the peaceful land of the Chechen-Ingush Republic has become an arena for mass disorders and armed clashes," Mr. Yeltsin said in a statement.

The autonomous Chechen-Ingush Republic, home to 1.3 million mostly Sunni Muslim inhabitants, is the latest hotspot of ethnic unrest to boil over in what remains of the Soviet Union.

Russian television showed footage of an Armenian family lying dead in pools of blood after being shot in Nagorno-Karabakh, site of the most intractable of Soviet ethnic conflicts.

vince, were cut.

An eyewitness told Belgian Radio in Brussels that soldiers carried out the looting, firing automatic weapons in the air.

The man, who the radio said was employed by the state mining firm Gecamines, said by telephone from Lubumbashi that damage was substantial but there were no deaths.

Russian television showed footage of an Armenian family lying dead in pools of blood after being shot in Nagorno-Karabakh, site of the most intractable of Soviet ethnic conflicts.

The five were listed by him in the following order:

Norwegian Foreign Minister Thorvald Stoltenberg; Dutch Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek; Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, who heads U.N. humanitarian operations in the Gulf; Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland.

They are in addition to nine earlier candidates, including six sponsored by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

Mr. Garehian disclosed the five new names after closed-door council consultations during which he said members held a straw poll — an unofficial sounding of opinion.

He declined to give the results of the poll, except to say: "We have five new names... proposed by members of the council."

The names of the nine earlier candidates on the council's list have not been officially disclosed,

Gorbachev, republics ask Ukraine to stay in union

MOSCOW (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev and leaders of eight republics told the powerful Ukraine Tuesday it was an "irreplaceable" part of the Soviet Union and appealed to it to not break away.

"The Ukraine is one of the biggest republics in the union. Its role in the development of our country, in everything of which our peoples can rightly be proud, is irreplaceable," the appeal carried by Soviet News Agency (TASS) said.

"Let us be frank, we cannot imagine a union without the Ukraine."

The appeal clearly reflected concern among the republics at the Ukraine's failure to sign an economic cooperation agreement last Friday, seen by Mr. Gorbachev as the first step towards a new political union.

Larger in area than France, the Ukraine has a population of 52 million and represents about a quarter of the Soviet Union's

economic potentials. Its parliament declared independence in August immediately after a failed Moscow coup by Communist hardliners. A referendum on Dec. 1 is expected to show overwhelming support for secession.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin said in Minsk Monday that the Ukraine would sign the economic cooperation treaty, but did not specify when and on what conditions.

Ukrainian officials had previously said the pact smacked too much of old-style Soviet central control.

Even if the Ukraine does sign, there is strong opposition within the republic to Mr. Gorbachev's attempts to win approval of a separate political pact creating a new, looser Soviet Union.

The Ukraine is one of five republics which boycotted a session of the new-style Soviet parliament that opened Monday.

Seoul premier in N. Korea

SEOUL (AP) — Prime Minister Chung Won-Shik got a cool reception Tuesday in rival North Korea after announcing he planned to use rare high-level talks to demand that the North open its nuclear facilities for international inspection.

Prime Minister Chung Won-Shik told reporters before crossing the heavily armed border that he would demand that Communist North Korea halt nuclear weapons development and allow inspections "without any conditions."

There was no immediate reply from the North. The rigid, secretive Communist government has said it would refuse inspections until U.S. nuclear weapons are withdrawn from South Korea and the South also allows inspections.

Mr. Chung also said he would demand that the North give up its plans to build nuclear weapons. It was the first time the South said it would broach the sensitive subject at the prime minister-level talks about easing enduring cold war tensions on the divided Korean peninsula.

5 more names added to list of top U.N. post candidates

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Security Council members have added the names of five prominent personalities to the roster of candidates for the post of U.N. secretary-general, the president of the council, Ambassador Chinnayag Gharehian of India, has announced.

The five were listed by him in the following order:

Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Boutros Ghali; Zimbabwe Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero; Kenneth Dadi of Ghana, secretary-general of the U.N. Conference on Trade and Development James Jonah of Sierra Leone; U.N. Undersecretary-General for special political questions former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo and former physics professor and Culture Minister Ngome Francois Owoño of Gabon.

Three other names that appeared on the list are: Philippines Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus, Name Terence, a former U.N. representative of Burundi and Michael Doo King of Cameroon, executive director of the U.N. Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

One source said Mr. Ghali and Mr. Chidzero did well in the straw poll but there was no confirmation.

The council president said another straw poll would be held in the very near future.

The council's deliberations are to choose a successor to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Jerry Brown enters race for U.S. Democratic presidential nod

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Former California Governor Jerry Brown, declaring political war against an entrenched and corrupt Washington elite, launched his third bid for the White House Monday outside Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

"I am here in Philadelphia to stand as a candidate for president of the United States," Mr. Brown, 53, told a crowd of several hundred reporters, campaign workers, tourists and passers-by in the courtyard of the building where the American Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776.

An outspoken critic of the U.S. political system in recent months, Mr. Brown stressed he was seeking the nation's highest office as a political outsider.

His candidacy brings to six the number of prominent Democrats to join the 1992 presidential race. The others are Governors Bill Clinton of Arkansas and Douglas Wilder of Virginia, Senators Bob Kerrey of Nebraska and Tom Harkin of Iowa, and former Senator Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts.

The Democratic nominee will be selected at the party's convention in New York in July and challenge Republican incumbent George Bush in the Nov. 3, 1992, election.

Mr. Brown said he chose Independence Hall to start his candidacy in honour of the anti-elitist philosophy of Thomas Jefferson,

the main author of the Declaration of Independence and founder of the U.S. Democratic Party.

He called for political change to return government to the people, and to finance his own campaign he vowed not to accept contributions that are greater than \$100 a piece.

"Our democracy has been the object of a hostile takeover engineered by a confederacy of corruption, careerism and campaign consulting," Mr. Brown told the audience.

"Money has been the lubricant greasing the deal," he said, arguing that the U.S. political structure has made both the Republican and Democratic parties into servants of campaign contributors rather than of the public good.

He promised to halt what he termed the erosion of the middle-class and said he would campaign for national health insurance, abortion rights, the inner-city poor, improved public education and congressional term limits.

Meanwhile, blacks are angry, Republicans are in disarray and the White House is distancing itself from ex-Klanster and self-styled Republican candidate David Duke as he prepares for a Nov. 16 roundoff in the Louisiana governor's race.

The former Ku Klux Klan leader, who now espouses strict conservative rhetoric, finished second in the state's open primary Saturday with 32 per cent of

Cambodia accused of launching 11th-hour offensive

BANGKOK (R) — Cambodian guerrillas accused government forces Tuesday of launching an 11th-hour attack to grab land back before Wednesday's peace accord.

The Khmer People's National Liberation Front said five government troops, one guerrilla and a woman civilian had been killed in two days of fighting around a guerrilla enclave near the Thai-Cambodian border.

Spokesman Ok Serei Sophak said both sides were pounding each other with artillery Tuesday but there had been no ground fighting since KPNLF troops recaptured a base on Monday.

An agreement is to be signed in Paris Wednesday to end almost 13 years of civil war. A huge U.N. peacekeeping force will be deployed to disarm the armies and monitor a ceasefire until elections are held.

"They are trying to eliminate as much of our liberated zone as possible before the agreement and take back people under our control," said Mr. Ok. "We will do our best to defend our population."

He expressed concern that fighting could continue even after the accord was signed since the vanguard of the peacekeeping force would take some time to get in place.

Government army officers said Monday the KPNLF had started the fighting after Phnom Penh authorities tightened controls on cross-border trading, depriving a guerrilla-run black market of goods.

"There's definitely something going on," said a relief worker in Aranyaprathet. "It was certainly very heavy on Saturday night with outgoing and landing mortars."

The U.S.-backed KPNLF are a small non-Communist group allied with the Communist Khmer Rouge and forces loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the exiled former king who now heads a provisional national council, joining all factions.

In Phnom Penh, the head of Cambodia's ruling party expressed serious doubts about the ability of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) effectively to monitor the demobilisation of guerrilla forces.

"I don't know whether UNTAC will have enough ability or officials to supervise the forest regions and mountains," said Chea Sim, president of the former Communist Party now known as the Cambodian People's Party.

He said troops of "the other side" were garrisoned in remote areas protected by a cordon of mines.

"We realise that within UNTAC there will be groups to take away landmines but how successful will they be and could they fully observe the other side?" he told reporters.

COLUMN

Woman on ball after allegations of palace drugs racket

LONDON (R) — A woman who was arrested over allegations that a drugs racket was being run from Queen Elizabeth's Buckingham Palace in London was freed on bail Monday. Police said she was released on police bail until Dec. 3, pending further inquiries.

The KPM (Kings' Messenger) said the woman, who was not named by police, was detained within hours of the publication of a newspaper report headed Drug Dealing At The Palace.

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SMITHFIELD, Australia (AP) — A 6-year-old